THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) 90 educational institutions have been granted 'Deemed to be University' status so far, out of which six are located in Karnataka.

(c) One application in respect of Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath, Bangalore for conferring 'Deemed to be University' status has been received from the Government of Karnataka.

(d) The proposals for grant of 'Deemed to be University status' are considered in consultation with University Grants Commission and other concerned statutory bodies like All India Council for Technical Education, Medical Council of India, Dental Council of India etc. Declaration of an Institution as 'Deemed to be University' is a statutory process done on fulfilment of the above requirements under the guidelines.

Allocation for education

207. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of the allocation for education out of the total allocation for the First Five Year Plan; and

(b) the percentage of the allocation for education in the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) According to the Second Five Year Plan document of the Planning Commission, the percentage of the allocation for education out of the total allocation was about 6.96 per cent during the First Five Year Plan (1951—1956). According to their Tenth Five Year Plan Document, the percentage of Central Plan Outlay for the Department of Secondary and Higher Education and the Department of Elementary Education and Literacy to the total Central Tenth Five Year Plan (2002—2007) Outlay is about 4.91 per cent.

Girls education

208. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the UNICEF annual report

out of the 65 million girls not attending school worldwide, 35 million are from India; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to accelerate the efforts and increase expenditure on girls education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) As per Selected Educational Statistics 2001-2002, out of the total 93.8 million girl child population projected in the age group of 6-14 years, 69.0 million girls are enrolled in schools.

(b) Under SSA, efforts have been made for increasing enrolment of girls by providing them free taxt books; separate toilets; organizing back to school camps for out of school girls; community mobilization to target girls' enrolment and retention; gender sensitization of text books and teachers; and for context specific innovative activities for girls' education including early childhood care and education. Under the National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGEL), additional support to Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) is being provided for enhancing learning of the under-privileged/disadvantaged girls at elementary level. Besides, Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Scheme has been approved for opening of residential schools with boarding facilities at elementary level for girls belonging predominantly to SC, ST, OBC and minorities, in difficult areas.

National Talent Search Examination

†209. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that system of National Talent Search Examination has been changed;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that examination conducted for science talent search at 12th class level has been discontinued;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is also a fact that scholarship amount of Rs. 500 has been reduced to Rs. 200; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.